



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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May 27, 2008

The Honorable Timothy S. Bee
President
Arizona State Senate
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Senate Bill 1106; Concealed Weapons Permit; Renewal Option

Dear President Bee,

Today I vetoed Senate Bill 1106, which proposes to make concealed weapons permits, once obtained, valid for the entire lifetime of the permit holder, without renewal.

Under current law, concealed weapons permits are valid for five years and renewable. At renewal, the Arizona Department of Public Safety conducts a criminal background check of the applicant to ensure he or she is still eligible to carry a concealed weapon. The criminal background check is paid for, in part, by a \$43.00 renewal fee. Because Arizona requires this renewal and criminal background check, other states and the Federal Bureau of Investigation accept the Arizona concealed weapons permit in lieu of their own permits and procedures.

A lifetime permit would eliminate the periodic opportunity to conduct these criminal background checks, which are an important part of ensuring that only non-felons lawfully carry concealed weapons. The lifetime permit would also, ironically, make it harder for permit holders to carry weapons outside of Arizona and to purchase firearms from firearm dealers without also passing an independent Federal Bureau of Investigation background check.


More important, the concept of lifetime validity for a concealed weapons permit is unwise public policy. In Arizona, a food service worker license is valid for three years, after which every chef, waiter, bartender and dishwasher must take a new exam on food safety to renew his or her license. If we believe protecting the public from food poisoning

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is important enough to require retesting and renewal, it is impossible to justify a lifetime permit for the carrying of a concealed weapon.

For these and other reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 1106.

Yours very truly,



Janet Napolitano
Governor

JN:LK

cc: The Honorable Jim Weiers
The Honorable Chuck Gray

Passed the House May 21, 20 08

by the following vote: 35 Ayes,

25 Nays, 0 Not Voting


Speaker of the House


Chief Clerk of the House

Passed the Senate _____, 20 _____

by the following vote: _____ Ayes,

_____ Nays, _____ Not Voting

President of the Senate

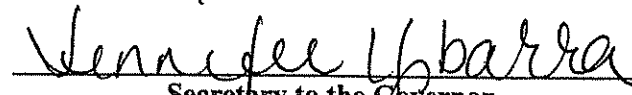
Secretary of the Senate

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR

This Bill received by the Governor this

22nd day of May, 20 08

at 11:41 o'clock a. M.


Secretary to the Governor

Approved this _____ day of _____

at _____ 'clock _____ M.

VETO

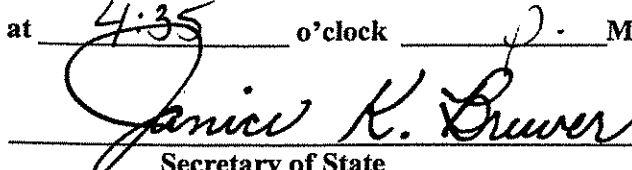
Governor of Arizona

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill received by the Secretary of State

this 27 day of May, 20 08

at 4:35 o'clock p. M.


Secretary of State

ON RECONSIDERATION
S.B. 1106